

On ROTC debate, transgender students vary

BY KATIE BENTIVOGLIO
Spectator Staff Writer

The University Senate's recent vote in support of allowing ROTC's return to campus after a 40-year absence has elicited differing responses among the University's transgender students.



This is the third part of a series exploring the experience of gender nonconforming students at Columbia

The University began debating whether to allow the Reserve Officers' Training Corps back on campus after Congress repealed the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, which prohibited gays and lesbians from serving openly, last December. But many students, including Gavin McGown, CC '13, argued in the senate's town hall debates that the military's continuing ban on transgender and intersex individuals serving means ROTC would violate the University's nondiscrimination policy—and have been left wondering why the same protection from discrimination isn't being offered to them.

"If you have a policy that you affirm in nine out of every 10 cases and you don't affirm it in the one case, in what sense is that actually the policy?" McGown, who identifies as transgender, asked.

Following the senate's vote to invite ROTC back to campus, Avi Edelman, CC '11 and president of Everyone Allied Against Homophobia, said that transgender and gender nonconforming



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ONE MINUTE | Andrew Nguyen, UniteCU's candidate for CCSC president, spoke during the debate at Havana Central on Thursday.

students deserve the same protection from the University as gay, lesbian, and bisexual students.

"The University upheld our nondiscrimination policy by not inviting ROTC back when gays and lesbians were excluded," Edelman said. "But the University is unwilling to make the same inclusion for students who are gender nonconforming or transgender," he added.

Edelman attributed the passage of the senate resolution to a general ignorance on campus about issues faced by transgender and gender nonconforming students.

"Unfortunately, that ignorance led us to make a decision that makes our campus a little less safe for transgender and gender nonconforming students," Edelman said.

But some transgender students feel that the nondiscrimination debate was co-opted as a means to generally oppose ROTC's return.

"I think they're tokenizing the issue, using it as a ploy," said Rey Grosz, GS, who identifies as transgender. Though he is glad to see transgender issues brought up on campus, he thinks activists have treated them as a cause du jour.

"People are just hypocritical and just want something to fight for," Grosz said. "I don't think that they have a right to speak on behalf of the discriminated-against trans population that aren't allowed in the military. Not letting ROTC people in—I think that's discrimination," though he emphasized that discrimination against transgender students is still present on campus, both in social settings and administrative policy.

Issues like gender-neutral housing and whether or not transwomen should be allowed to attend Barnard are more important issues to debate on campus, Grosz added.

Astronomy professor Jim Applegate, a member of the senate's Task Force on Military Engagement and a vocal supporter of ROTC, has said that an ROTC program would be entirely consistent with the nondiscrimination policy. He emphasized the clause in the policy which says, "Nothing in this policy shall abridge academic freedom or the University's educational mission"—a mission that includes educating future military service members as well as civilians about military policy.

Tao Tan, CC '07, Business '11, and the chair of the senate's Student Affairs Committee, agreed

that the nondiscrimination policy would not be compromised by ROTC's return.

"The policy was never meant to be so restrictive as to abridge the University's educational mission. The football team, for example, discriminates on the basis of sex and gender as well," he said in an email.

Applegate also disagreed with claims that ROTC's return would hurt or marginalize transgender students on campus.

"Keeping ROTC off campus does nothing to improve the lives of transgender and gender nonconforming students that I can see. All it does is make the life of an ROTC cadet more difficult without achieving anything positive for anyone else," Applegate added.

SEE GENDER, page 4

Barnard scholarships earn \$2 million at Plaza dinner

BY ARVIN AHMADI
Spectator Staff Writer

Barnard raised over \$2 million, a record, at its annual scholarship dinner at The Plaza Hotel on Wednesday night.

Ellen Futter, BC '71 and a former president of Barnard, and Barbara Novak, BC '50 and a professor at Barnard for 40 years, were honored at the gala, which raised money for the Barnard College Scholarship Fund.

Futter, who became president of Barnard at age 32, said she was grateful to be recognized at the event.

"I could never ever have dreamed that Barnard would end up playing such a central role in my life and that I would become its child president, perhaps in violation of child labor laws," Futter joked.

Instead of auctioning off actual prizes like in years past, this year, Barnard allowed guests to bid on student scholarships: \$50,000 bought one year of tuition, \$10,000

room and board, and \$1,000 paid for student life fees. The auction raised over \$500,000.

Atosa Rubenstein, BC '93 and former editor-in-chief of Seventeen magazine, said being at the dinner reminded her of how grateful she was to have had the opportunity to attend Barnard. She described her high-school self as the average Long Island girl with "air-brushed nails" and "Bon Jovi posters."

"Prior to Barnard, I was 'Most Likely to be on the Jersey Shore,'" Rubenstein quipped. "After Barnard, I had some more virtuous successes."

After a cocktail hour, guests entered The Plaza's grand ballroom, where glass chandeliers hung overhead. Alumnae who attended the college half a century ago and current students alike said they felt the excitement of the event.

"It's kind of like our future," Sarah Drew, BC '13, said. Drew and five friends were invited to the

SEE DINNER, page 4



CHRISTINA PHAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SWANKY | Barnard's 2011 Scholarship Dinner honored former President Ellen Futter on Wednesday, April 6 at The Plaza Hotel.

FOR 40 DAYS, A FLOOD OF MALT



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ALMOST THERE | Seniors preserved the storied tradition of "40's on 40" last night, convening on Low Steps at 1:30 a.m. to drink malt liquor 40 days before graduation.

USenate candidates introduce themselves

BY ELISSE ROCHE
Columbia Daily Spectator

Elections for two Columbia College seats in the University Senate start Monday, and incumbent senator Alex Frouman, CC '12, is attempting to hold onto his position.

Competing candidates are Matthew Chou, CC '14, Chris Canales, CC '14, Steven Castellano, CC '13, Dylan Lonergan, CC '13, and Eduardo Santana, CC '13.

Current senator Tim Lam, CC '11, is not running for reelection, and the college's third seat—held by Kenny Durell, CC '12—is not up for reelection.

The 108-member senate, which

has authority to craft policies that affect more than one school at Columbia, has passed two high-profile resolutions this academic year. Senators voted last semester to ban smoking within 20 feet of buildings on the Morningside Heights campus, and this semester passed a resolution in support of bringing the Reserve Officers' Training Corps back to Columbia.

There will be a debate among these candidates on Sunday at 5:30 p.m. in Lerner Party Space, and the election runs through Wednesday evening.

ALEX FROUMAN

Frouman, the incumbent, was a member of the senate task force that gathered campus opinions

on ROTC and was instrumental in crafting the 20-foot campus smoking ban—a compromise between those who wanted a full ban and those who wanted no ban at all.

"After my two years of service building valuable experience, institutional knowledge, and relationships, I am confident that I am a very qualified candidate who can get things done," Frouman said.

Frouman said he has advocated for CourseWorks' successor, Sakai—although it has not yet been implemented—and established a pilot program among senators to test its performance

SEE USENATE, page 4

OPINION, PAGE 2

Tokens of War

Despite mollifying rhetoric, Palestinian Israelis face real injustices.

Suite Style

Dino Grandoni lends his advice on living well with others.



SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Columbia hits the road this weekend

To continue its play in the Ancient Eight, the baseball team will travel to Providence and New Haven, as it takes on Brown and Yale in hopes of improving its conference record.

EVENTS

The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail

Watch Thoreau fight for his beliefs in this CU Players production.
Glicker-Milstein Theater, Diana Center, 8 p.m.

TEDxColumbiaEngineeringSchool

See TED Talk style presentations from 14 leading figures in engineering and tech.
Davis Auditorium, Schapiro Center, all day.

WEATHER

Today



53°/42°

Tomorrow



58°/48°



The 135th year of publication
Independent since 1962

CORPORATE BOARD

SAMUEL E. ROTH
Editor in Chief

MICHELE CLEARY
Managing Editor

ADITYA MUKERJEE
Publisher

MANAGING BOARD

LEAH GREENBAUM
Campus News Editor

SARAH DARVILLE
City News Editor

GABRIELLA PORRINO
Editorial Page Editor

REBEKAH MAYS
Editorial Page Editor

ALLISON MALECHA
Arts & Entertainment Editor

JIM PAGELS
Sports Editor

MRINAL MOHANKA
Sports Editor

MIKEY ZHONG
Spectrum Editor

AMANDA CORMIER
The Eye, Editor in Chief

ASHTON COOPER
The Eye, Managing Editor

CINDY PAN
The Eye, Art Director

ALEX COLLAZO
Head Copy Editor

JASPER L. CLYATT
Photo Editor

ANN CHOU
Design Editor

JEREMY BLEEKE
Design Editor

JAKE DAVIDSON
Online Content Editor

HANNAH D'APICE
Staff Director

ANDREW HITTI
Alumni Director

MABEL MCLEAN
Sales Director

SPENCER DUHAIME
Finance Director

DEPUTY BOARD

News Editors
Karla Jimenez, Chelsea Lo, Abby Mitchell, Sonalee Rau, Sammy Roth
Arts & Entertainment Editors
Claire Fu, Claire Stern
Copy Editor
Zuzanna Fuchs
Design Editor
Rebecca Schwarz
Photo Editors
Zara Castany, Maria Castex, Alyson Goulden, Phoebe Lytle, Christina Phan
Sports Editors
Zach Glibicki, Kunal Gupta
Infrastructure Editor
Amrita Mazumdar
Sales
Thomas Elustondo, Alex Smyk
Finance
Gabriela Hempfling, Noah Kolatch, Daniela Quintanilla
Alumni
Rob Frech, Rex Macaylo

ASSOCIATE BOARD

Editorial Page Editors
Andrea Garcia-Vargas, Samantha Henderson, Leo Schwartz, Lanbo Zhang
Arts & Entertainment Editors
Ian Erickson-Kery, Maricela Gonzalez, Melissa Haney, Joseph Pomp, Katy Tong
Copy Editors
Maggie Alden, Dick Jackie, Abigail Fisch, Jessica Geiger, Emily Handsman, Michelle Lappen, Hannah Laymon, Gina Lee, Emily Neil, Emily Sorensen, Sean Wong
Page Design Editors
Maya Fegan, Joe Girtan, Tanvi Gupta, Leila Lin, Geetika Rudra, Finn Vigeland, Isaac White, Laura Ye
Graphic Design Editors
Stephanie Mannheim, Yuma Shinohara
Photo Editors
Arvin Ahmadi, Hannah Botkin, Phoebe Brosnan, Kate Scarbrough, Henry Willson
Sports Editors
Rebeka Cohan, Trevor Cohen, Robert Wren Gordon, Jeremiah Sharf, Molly Tow, Ryan Young
Sales
Katherine Estabrook, Aurora Lende, Ross Lerner, Jamie Yu
Finance
Brendan Barry, Shivrat Chhabra, Michelle Lacks, Jiaqi Liu, Zhaoan Ma, Bruno Mendes, Gedion Negash, Kinnari Norojono

EDITORIAL BOARD

Sarah Ahmed, Yohana Beyene, Sam Klug, Jonathan Lee, Stephen Snowden, Vighnesh Subramanyan

THURSDAY NIGHT STAFF
Copy
Trevor Cohen, Sierra Kuzava
Design
Hilary Udow

ADDRESS & EMAIL
Columbia Spector
2875 Broadway, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10025
info@columbiaspectator.com

PHONE & FAX
Daily Spector (212) 854-9549
Business (212) 854-9550
Business Fax (212) 854-9553

EDITORIAL POLICY
For more information about the Columbia Daily Spector and editorial policies, visit <http://www.columbiaspectator.com/about>.

CORRECTIONS
The Spector is committed to fair and accurate reporting. If you know of an error, please inform us at copy@columbiaspectator.com.

COMMENTS & QUESTIONS
For general comments or questions about the newspaper, please write to the editor in chief and managing editor at editor@columbiaspectator.com.

An open letter to President Bollinger

BY ROSALIND MORRIS

Dear President Bollinger,

On April 1, the Senate voted to authorize you to commence negotiations that could change ROTC's status at Columbia. It did so after you referred to a changed historical context in which Columbia could reconsider its "engagement" with the U.S. military. However, you did not specify the nature of this change.

Does change refer to globalization, in which context Columbia has established several global centers? If so, does a more elaborate ROTC presence on campus make Columbia a more or less attractive partner to foreign institutions and individuals that share a commitment to democracy? We often refer to other countries where the military is present in civilian institutions as in need of de-militarization.

Does change refer to the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell"? In truth, the act remains in force, and the form of response to the investigative report concerning the presence of gays and lesbians in the military has not been determined. Moreover, discrimination against gays and lesbians—as well as transgender and other individuals—in the military is not limited to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

Does change mean that women are no longer discriminated against in the military, and at Columbia? In fact, women are not eligible for numerous combat positions in the U.S. military. This means that, despite being vulnerable to injury and death, women often do not get the same combat pay as their male co-combatants. More importantly: A recent study indicates that almost one-third of all women in the U.S. military report being raped, and 71 percent of

After Office Hours

The suite life

College living offers me and other only children an education we could never have at home: learning to live with others. It was an easy choice freshman year to live in a Carman double—a chance to share a space with a peer, something I had never done before. Those with siblings might not realize how strange it is for a singleton to have another living body in your space day in and day out.

Again, in sophomore and junior years, I roomed in a double. Each of my roommates was fine in his own right, but by senior year I was ready for my own space, and my friends and I were lucky to a get a townhouse in East Campus where we each had singles.

Finally, some privacy! No longer would I have to hear complaints about my messiness or late-night "study" habits. ("Study" here is used broadly to denote anything from watching reruns of "30 Rock" on Hulu to writing columns due the next day.) I figured EC was a reward after two years of views of dimly lit brick walls in Nussbaum and Watt.

Living with a group, though, is a different animal than dorming in a double. With housing selection fresh in underclassmen's minds, I have some advice for rising seniors lucky enough to get an EC suite. Here's how to make the most of the best year of the best years of your life:

First, during the very first week of school, go to one of a handful of Costco stores in the greater New York City area and stock up on everything you will need through the year. I mean everything. Dishes, cutlery, pots, and pans. Soap, paper towels, tissues. Toiletries, including a bulk package of tooth paste tubes, which each of your suitemates can individually label and which guests can mock after using your bathroom.

Next, get a large TV. Preferably one that is 42 inches or larger. A big television all of a sudden becomes affordable when you and your suitemates all pitch in to buy it. After three years of streaming TV shows and movies from questionable websites onto your laptop, you may have forgotten what real TV watching is like.

Finally, set explicit rules for the common area. Your suitemates may be your friends, but law and order is essential for them to stay that way.

But don't watch TV all of the time; get a Wii, too. Or some other gaming system. It doesn't matter if you feel you're too old for video games. The point of it is to get Netflix onto that 42 inches of glorious high definition. Watch every episode of "Arrested Development" and "Parks and Recreation" at least three times. Only do this if you don't care about your GPA.

After the trip to Costco, turn your attention to your room. Differentiate it from the rest of the suite. Furnish and decorate it so it's your own. You'll need to keep yourself sane. A corollary to this is to rearrange your stuff halfway through the year. It's a good way to break up the monotony of college life.

Finally, set explicit rules for the common area. Your suitemates may be your friends, but law and order is essential for them to stay that way. (Not "Law and Order": you have Netflix for that.) Remember to argue insistently about bylaws and amendments to these rules, too. It's good practice for law school.

For example, the most important and frequently enforced rule of my suite was not to leave stuff laying around the common room. Any violator can have their stuff thrown in front of their dorm. I think this rule was created for me. But it's not my fault—I don't have any siblings.

One other indispensable rule: Don't have sex in the common bathroom. Especially if your suitemate is tired and has a column due the next day.

Dino Grandoni is a Columbia College senior majoring in economics-political science. He is a former Spector head copy editor. The Lowest Common Dino-minator runs alternate Fridays.



DINO GRANDONI

The Lowest Common Dino-minator

military women receiving treatment for PTSD report being the victims of rape or sexual assault. Yet, when Mr. Tao Tan spoke as the official student representative in favor of ROTC's changed status, he tried to deflect the issue by referring to Barnard as a discriminatory institution. Although Columbia finally admitted women to its College in 1983, 68 percent of Senators are men, and 71 percent of attendees of the April 1 meeting were men. These numbers tell us that gender inequality has not changed and should not therefore be dismissed.

Does change refer to the fact that our "peer institutions" are enhancing their arrangements with ROTC? Must we do anything simply because others do it? This logic has led many people to commit acts that they later regretted.

Does change refer to the fact that the U.S. armed forces now contract out many of the staffing and curricular functions of ROTC to private, for-profit corporations (such as MPRI and COMTek, Inc.) and that the U.S. government no longer always enforces the law requiring ROTC instructional staff to have the academic rank of professor? Will we act on the basis of non-enforcement of laws in other areas? Of course, the privatization of military functions in a time when there is no conscription does indeed constitute a change. Yet, there was no public discussion of these issues by the Task Force on Military Engagement.

Does change mean that course credit may no longer be required by ROTC as a condition of its program operations at any given university? Questions of curriculum are not reducible to the matter of credit; a course preparatory to human destruction does not change when it is not granted credit.

Does change refer to the fact that the 2010-2011 Task Force recommended a change departing from a 40-year precedent? What is the status of these recommendations? In question is the neutrality of the Task Force. Professor James Applegate and Mr. Tao Tan jointly appointed the supposedly impartial Task Force members but repeatedly spoke in favor of ROTC's transformed status, including at the plenary meeting of April 1. The Task Force also failed

The politics of tokenism

BY ALAA MILBES AND DINA ZBEIDY

Last month, Columbia Students for Justice in Palestine (C-SJP) sponsored Israeli Apartheid Week. In response, Hillel groups organized a campaign titled "Separating Fact From Apartheid." To achieve this end, Hillel employed racist tactics to put a convivial face to Israel's military and colonial occupation of Palestinian land. Hillel's tokenistic rhetoric manifested itself in the Faces of Israel project (initiated by the Consulate General of Israel in New York in 2008), when an Ethiopian Jew, a Palestinian Israeli, and a gay Israeli were invited to our campus to present the "real face" of Israeli society.

This phenomenon is, of course, familiar to American history. During segregation, the US government sent black artists on international tours in a PR campaign to blur the harsh reality of Jim Crow laws and to create an illusion of American inclusiveness and multiplicity. Today, think of any instance when you've heard a peer attempt to downplay a racist statement by retorting: "I have a black friend." In the simplest terms, Hillel was importing its various "black friends" in order to hide the reality of Israeli apartheid and its Jim Crow-like legislations. To illustrate Israel's "diversity," Hillel set up a display of large poster boards of Israel's token successful minorities.

The first board featured Rana Raslan, who in 1999 became the first Arab to win a Miss Israel contest. Three years later, Raslan was quoted as saying, "Till today, I am treated like trash at the airport. I haven't visited Israel for three months because of what I had gone through during security checks. I was asked questions in a vulgar manner, held for hours. They also searched me; I have no problem being treated like any other civilian, but there is a way to do so, with delicacy."

Another poster featured Salim Joubran, a lawyer born in Haifa, who was elected in 2004 to become the first Arab to hold a permanent appointment as a Supreme Court Justice. A piece published in Spectator by LionPAC's director of public relations, Jonathan Huberman, claimed that having a Palestinian-Israeli on Israel's Supreme Court is evidence that Israel is "a democratic, multi-ethnic country that upholds equal rights for all of its citizens" ("Where are the moderates,



STAFF EDITORIAL

Casual Friday: Beat the bulletin

Class registration is an infamously stressful time for Columbia students. What classes to take, what courses to dodge—these are all the things plaguing our minds at the moment. By highlighting what we predict will be the best classes of 2011-2012, we want to offer you concrete advice for navigating the annals of Columbia's bulletins. With the right amount of luck and careful planning, you'll be just fine. Choose wisely, fellow students!

ANTHRO V2201 Hipsters: An Anthropological Survey, 4 pts.

Not offered in 2011-2012. A unique opportunity to study this modern human animal in its natural habitat. The origin and development of central themes of hipster culture. Field work includes sitting on Low steps, faux-reading in the Hungarian Pastry Shop, as well as trips to NYU and Williamsburg. Readings include the New Yorker, Village Voice, anything David Foster Wallace or J.D. Salinger.

Fall 2011: TR 2:40 p.m.–3:55 p.m. Butler Reference Room DOMESTIC ARTS D1032 The Art of Basket Weaving, 3 pts.

This class will encourage a profound analysis of the cottage industry and its role in the birth of the Industrial Revolution. In-depth reading accompanied with hands-on work will complete the post-Industrialist critique of the modern European

Each Friday, a professor will share scholastic wisdom readers won't find in lectures. Suggestions regarding which professors to feature are welcome.

to publicly present the content of the March 30 Faculty Caucus Meeting and the dissent-filled special March 30 meeting of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at the plenary. These facts undermine the status of the Task Force reports and all the deliberations emanating therefrom. If this lack of impartiality and procedural fairness is a change in Senate practice, it is not positive.

Columbia students already enjoy the option of ROTC, by virtue of cross-town arrangements—a common structure throughout New York State. The change that appears on the horizon for ROTC is therefore a symbolic one, in which the intensified presence of ROTC on campus signifies the University's embrace of the military. What can this mean at a time when most Americans (including many veterans), and most people in the world, oppose the U.S. military's current engagements?

Hopefully, what has not changed is Columbia's commitment to free, independent, and critical thought. Hopefully, what has not changed is Columbia's capacity to differentiate between a curriculum that promotes knowledge and critical judgment and one that promotes the destruction of human life as a solution to political problems.

It may be too much to hope for an end to war, but it is not impossible to hope that Columbia University would refuse to participate in its valorization, or the misrepresentation of preparation for war as a mere course of study like any other. War is not like anything else. Our many students who come from war-ravaged lands know this. Many had indeed hoped for change when they applied to Columbia. The University has the opportunity to model a different response to crisis than that of war. Why can this not be the change that constitutes Columbia University's contribution to globalization?

The author is a professor in the department of anthropology.

March. 4). Huberman believes that the appointment of the first and only permanent Palestinian Israeli judge to Israel's Supreme Court in its 56 years of existence is evidence of its "equal rights" and "democratic" nature. According to Sikkuy's data, at the end of 2008 only 42 of 589 judges in Israel were Arabs—seven percent of the judiciary. A 2008 report about fair representation of the Arab population in the civil service, which was published by the Civil Service Commission in June of this year, indicates that of 3,763 employees in the courts administration, only 119 are Arabs—3.16 percent of all employees. Palestinian citizens of Israel constitute nearly 20 percent of the overall population.

The use of tokenistic arguments to defend Israel's violations is an outstanding feature in the rhetoric of Hillel members. In a recent article ("Against intellectual boycott," Feb. 27), Matthew Jacobs calls C-SJP's reference to Israel as an apartheid state an "antiquated label." In fact, the 2004 U.S. State Department Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for Israel and the Occupied Territories stated that the Israeli government had done "little to reduce institutional, legal, and societal discrimination against the country's Arab citizens." Continued land confiscation, home and village demolitions, and institutionalized social, legal, and economic discrimination facing Palestinian citizens of Israel are facets of Israel's apartheid system and occupation of Palestine.

Israel's policies are an outdated form of colonialism. Fortunately, the international community is becoming more outspoken in its support for the indigenous Palestinian population. The international outrage caused by Israel's attack on Gaza has garnered extensive global support for the Boycott Divestment and Sanctions movement. People are becoming more aware of the discrimination Palestinians inside Israel face, especially after the passing of two laws by the Israeli Knesset that target its Palestinian population: the Nakba Law and the Admission Committee Law. We call on Hillel groups to join us in spreading awareness and truth surrounding this issue instead of defending colonial occupation and apartheid.

Alaa Milbes is a student in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences in the department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African studies. Dina Zbeidy is a student in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences in the department of anthropology. She is a Palestinian citizen of Israel.

world with its emphasis on alienated labor. Special features include field trips to Brown (the institution with the most specialized research on basket weaving) and talks at local senior citizen homes.

Spring 2012: MW 10:35 a.m.–11:50 a.m. Diana Center PHED 1000: Competitive Napping, 5 pts.

This upper-level physical education class will focus on the swiftness and intensity of napping. Students should allow additional time for coffee between classes due to long lines at Joe.

Fall 2011: MTWRF 4:10 p.m.–6 p.m. Everywhere BIO W2143 Advanced Whale Calls, 3 pts.

This class takes a scientific approach to the lonely plight of whales. This survey course teaches a molecular understanding of electrical signals, synaptic transmission, and compassion. Prerequisites: one year of biology; a course in psychology. Spring 2012: TR 2:40 p.m.–3:55 p.m. GreenBorough LANG 4201 Intermediate Elvish, 4 pts.

Learn a language that will help you find a soul mate. Helps facilitate relationships between geeks and the chance encounter with Orlando Bloom. Students must be enrolled in Council of Elron seminar.

Fall 2011: FSun 8:30 a.m.–10 a.m. Knox aka Middle Earth STATS 1011: How to Avoid Grenades, 4 pts.

A statistical analysis of the chances that you will be hit with a grenade on a Saturday night. Practical application of probability concepts teaches students to use their knowledge in drunken situations. Expert lecturers include Snooki, The Situation, and Pauly D.

Fall 2011: RF 11:30 a.m.–12 a.m. 1020 Trivia Night

CCSC candidates say money should be allocated elsewhere

CCSC from front page

make CCSC more transparent. First-year Varun Char, Better Columbia's VP of communications candidate, suggested rotating the council's meeting location by using dorm lounges and potentially requesting space from the Intercultural Resource Center. "People don't know where it's happening and when it's happening," Char said. Steele Sternberg, CC '13 and Better Columbia's candidate for VP of communications, noted that the CCSC finance website has not been updated in 318 days. Ryan Cho, CC '13 and VP of policy candidate for CU Charge,

explained that a lot of students are unaware of the range of issues CCSC influences. He said they intend to have weekly office hours and publish CCSC's budget if elected, in addition to reaching out more to students. After briefly describing their platforms, candidates answered questions posed by audience members, readers of Spectrum, and Spectator. "I'm most satisfied about the fact that even if my ticket is not elected, my presence here has made the issue of sustainability something to be talked about," said Elizabeth Kipp-Giusti, CC '12, current CU Green Umbrella board member and candidate for Unite CU. news@columbiaspectator.com

Former Barnard president, professor honored at dinner

DINNER from front page

dinner by her suitemate's parents. "All of a sudden you're surrounded by really powerful Barnard women, and it's so empowering." Barnard President Debora Spar spent most of the evening greeting guests, and opened the main event by presenting the two Frederick A.P. Barnard Awards to Futter and Novak. Futter attended Columbia Law School upon graduation and then began working in corporate law. Soon after, she was appointed president of Barnard—a position she held until becoming president of the American Museum of Natural History in 1993. Novak pursued graduate work

in art history after Barnard and returned in 1958 to teach. After 40 years on the faculty, she retired in 1998. "What most benefited me as a Barnard professor was the human material I had to work with," Novak said. "Each mind, like a fingerprint, has something special to offer." Folk singer-songwriter Suzanne Vega, BC '81, said the evening reminded her that Barnard is constantly pushing forward. "The tendency is to feel that women's colleges are outdated, but I think if Barnard is to keep the pace it has to think more globally, and I think it is thinking more globally," Vega said. arvin.ahmadi@columbiaspectator.com

Some transgender students still concerned over discrimination

GENDER from front page

But McGown sees things differently, and points to specific experiences of transgender students on campus. "There's an interesting parallel between people who say they get looks for walking around in fatigues and me getting looks for walking around in a dress," McGown said. The military specifically prohibits transgender and intersex individuals from serving based on the Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, which is published by the American Psychiatric Association. Used by the military in addition to doctors, researchers, insurance companies, and policy makers, the DSM lists being transsexual as a medical disorder, though the entry was changed from "transsexual" to "gender identity disorder"

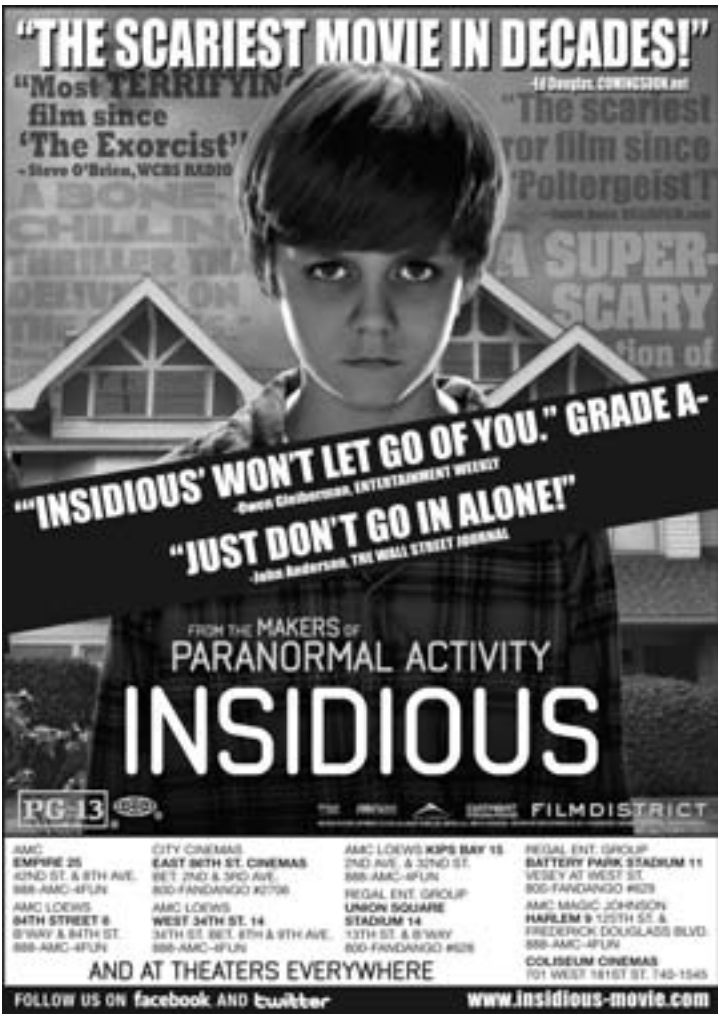
in 1994. McGown disagrees with this type of classification and believes that many of the challenges faced by gender nonconforming individuals stem from social, not biological, causes. "It's estimated that one transperson a month since 1990 has been a victim of a hate crime resulting in death," McGown said, adding that there are no federal protections for transpeople. And despite the senate's 51-17 vote in favor, McGown believes that allowing ROTC to return to Columbia violates the non-discrimination policy's protections based on "gender identity and expression." "If it doesn't apply thoroughly, then how does it apply at all?" McGown asked. katie.bentivoglio@columbiaspectator.com

Softball looking to pull Ivy League record above .500 this weekend

The Columbia softball team (8-19, 0-4 Ivy) heads on the road this weekend to go against Ivy League opponents Brown (7-11-1, 2-2 Ivy) and Yale (7-15, 1-3 Ivy). The Bears come into Friday's contests having split both of their doubleheaders last weekend against Princeton and Cornell. Sophomore infielder Stephanie Thompson is a huge threat in Brown's lineup, as she leads the conference with 10 home runs and currently holds a .556 batting average. The latter part of the season hasn't gone well for the Bulldogs. After starting its season 8-2, Yale has lost 13 of its last 14 contests. The Bulldogs were swept by Providence 2-1 and 12-10 this past Wednesday, but their most recent win was a 9-0 domination of Princeton in last weekend's conference opener. —Rebeka Cohan



FILE PHOTO
MAGGIECAL | Senior pitcher Maggie Johnson has produced from more than just the mound—she has a .254 batting average.



Six candidates vying for CC's two USenate seats

USENATE from front page

and provide feedback on development. He also successfully pushed to allow students to reschedule December 23 exams and is currently working on a proposal to encourage schools to make course evaluations public. He added that even though the senate often gets bogged down by "parliamentary procedures and competing interests," he thinks it does important work. "More power and responsibility to the senate means more ways for the student voice to be heard and effect change," he said. "So I think the senate should always exercise more power when appropriate."

CHRIS CANALES

Canales, too, said the senate does work that is important to students' lives. He said he is running because he believes senators often do not listen to student voices. "I have trouble standing by while important decisions about my experience at Columbia are made by people who don't vote according to what their constituents want or at least weigh public opinion before coming to decisions," he said. If elected, Canales said he will vote based on a rough "70-30" principle—his vote would be determined about 70 percent by public opinion and about 30 percent by his own opinion. While he did not want to make too many specific promises before listening to what students want, Canales said he would work to ensure "transparency in the administration's decision about ROTC and the military's presence on campus" and also push for cross-school swipe access for Barnard College, Teachers College, and the School of International and Public Affairs.

STEVEN CASTELLANO

Castellano aspires to influence the initiatives he saw forwarded to the senate during his time serving on the CCSC policy committee, like changes to the academic calendar and the

release of course evaluations. "My platform is centered around communicating with students and representing their concerns," Castellano said, "rather than just my own, in senate conversations." Castellano said that the three most important issues to address in the senate are creating more student space on campus, fostering a more environmentally-friendly Columbia, and changing the fall academic calendar so that finals end earlier. He believes students would support a proposal in which the number of exam days is decreased with more exams scheduled each day. Castellano said that the senate should do a better job of exercising its power, though he added that it should do so cautiously. "Three Columbia College students on senate cannot fully represent the diverse views of the Columbia students," he said. "I would be afraid of the senate exercising too much power in controversial circumstances without extensive discussion between faculty and students."

MATTHEW CHOU

If he is elected, Chou said he wants to be a strong proponent for the student body's voice to increase campus space for group use and push for inter-school swipe access. "My motivation for running for senate is that Columbia University, as a decentralized, multi-faceted institution, needs a strong student voice in University-wide matters," Chou said. "The relative disparity of the student population means that we risk not being able to communicate shared concerns." Chou added that the senate has the potential to affect University policies in a way that other campus governing bodies do not, and he said he would try to make that clear as a senator. "My first and foremost goal would be to promote active communication about what the role of senate is and what the senate is doing," Chou said. "Healthy dialogue would come first because, ultimately, I would be representative of the student body."

DYLAN LONERGAN

Lonerган, who was a 2013 class representative on CCSC last year, praised the senate for soliciting student opinions before passing the ROTC resolution last week. "Regardless of whether one supports the resolution or the proceedings of the task force, one has to consider the fact that the students were allowed participation in the process as opposed to the process at Harvard, where the president simply formally welcomed NROTC to its campus," Lonerган said. Lonerган was less supportive of the senate's 20-foot smoking ban, which he said the senate has no way of enforcing. In the wake of the controversial Manhattanville expansion, Lonerган said he would work to improve Columbia's image among its neighbors and push to give space that is vacated on the Morningside campus to undergraduate schools. "[The] newly vacated space ought not to go to private organizations and administrative offices," he said. "It would seem fair that this space would go to undergraduates as study lounges, performance space, etc. This is our second chance to achieve the dream that Lerner was."

EDUARDO SANTANA

Santana said that the senate faces a disconnect with the student body, and that this causes legislation like the ROTC resolution to be met with confusion and misunderstanding. "I believe that our current senate has made great efforts to bridge this gap, and really seek out the concerns of our community, but I think that more can be done," he said. He also emphasized that it is important for a senator to bring passion and responsibility to the table. "I love Columbia University," Santana said. "I am so grateful for all that our University has to offer, and how amazing our community truly is. The time has come for me to step up and offer myself to our community as the friend and faithful representative that the opportunities as senator allow for." news@columbiaspectator.com

Columbia Ballet Collaborative at Miller Theatre

Saturday, April 9 • 8 pm | Sunday, April 10 • 3 pm

Tickets \$15, \$7 CUID

Available online and at the Miller Theatre box office

www.millertheatre.com/events

Performance is part of Miller Theatre's Columbia Performers Partnership

Sponsored (in part) by the Arts Initiative at Columbia University. This funding is made possible through the generous gift from the Gatsby Charitable Foundation.

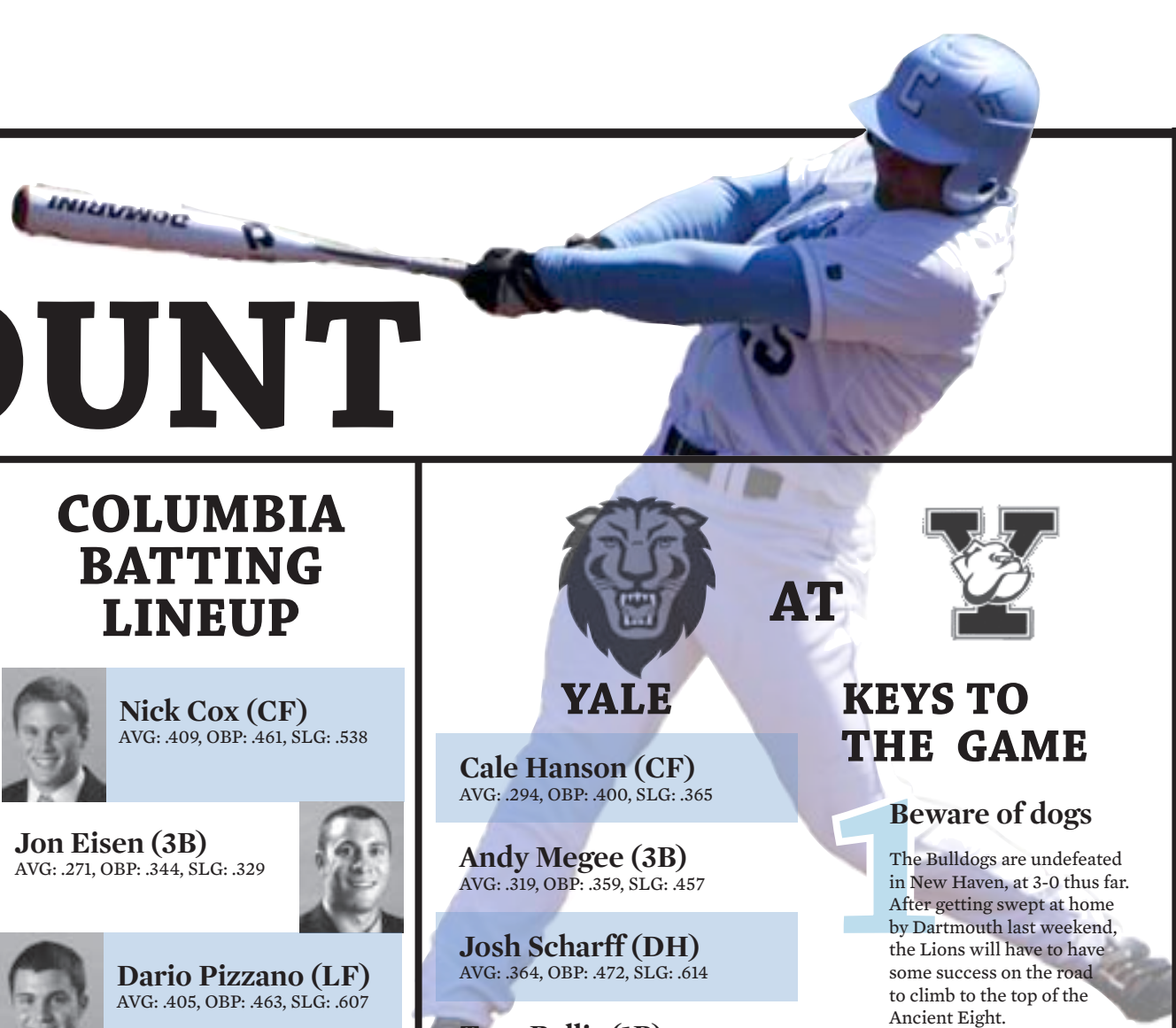
columbia.ballet.collaborative@gmail.com

www.columbiaballetcollaborative.com

Photo by Erin Baiano

ARTS INITIATIVE AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY FULL COUNT



AT



BROWN

John Sheridan (CF)
AVG: .288, OBP: .323, SLG: .322

Matt DeRenzi (LF)
AVG: .186, OBP: .239, SLG: .209

Matt Colantonio (C)
AVG: .273, OBP: .385, SLG: .364

Pete Greskoff (1B)
AVG: .185, OBP: .302, SLG: .296

Mike DiBiase (DH)
AVG: .300, OBP: .440, SLG: .400

Ryan Zrenda (3B)
AVG: .236, OBP: .267, SLG: .364

Josh Feit (RF)
AVG: .164, OBP: .217, SLG: .291

Graham Tyler (SS)
AVG: .238, OBP: .314, SLG: .349

J.J. Franco (2B)
AVG: .114, OBP: .152, SLG: .114

GAME 1



Matthew Kimball
Brown
ERA: 4.85, K: 13, BB: 4

vs.

Pat Lowery
Columbia
ERA: 5.86, K: 24, BB: 21



GAME 2



Kevin Carlow
Brown
ERA: 5.48, K: 13, BB: 4

vs.

Geoff Whitaker
Columbia
ERA: 5.53, K: 20, BB: 8



COLUMBIA BATTING LINEUP



Nick Cox (CF)
AVG: .409, OBP: .461, SLG: .538



Jon Eisen (3B)
AVG: .271, OBP: .344, SLG: .329



Dario Pizzano (LF)
AVG: .405, OBP: .463, SLG: .607



Alexander Aurrichio (1B)
AVG: .297, OBP: .463, SLG: .422



Nick Ferraresi (RF)
AVG: .243, OBP: .318, SLG: .338



Jason Banos (DH)
AVG: .295, OBP: .368, SLG: .475



Alex Godshall (2B)
AVG: .373, OBP: .418, SLG: .392



Alex Ferrera (SS)
AVG: .161, OBP: .243, SLG: .194



Mike Fischer (C)
AVG: .132, OBP: .222, SLG: .208



AT



YALE

Cale Hanson (CF)
AVG: .294, OBP: .400, SLG: .365

Andy Megee (3B)
AVG: .319, OBP: .359, SLG: .457

Josh Scharff (DH)
AVG: .364, OBP: .472, SLG: .614

Trey Rallis (1B)
AVG: .333, OBP: .429, SLG: .474

Ryan Brenner (C)
AVG: .321, OBP: .433, SLG: .446

Jacob Hunter (SS)
AVG: .358, OBP: .426, SLG: .472

Charlie Neil (RF)
AVG: .188, OBP: .260, SLG: .294

Cam Squires (LF)
AVG: .310, OBP: .426, SLG: .472

Gant Elmore (2B)
AVG: .282, OBP: .388, SLG: .296

GAME 3



Brook Hart
Yale
ERA: 2.01, K: 26, BB: 6

vs.

Dan Bracey
Columbia
ERA: 3.10, K: 19, BB: 8



GAME 4



Christopher O'Hare
Yale
ERA: 3.46, K: 11, BB: 2

vs.

Stefan Olson
Columbia
ERA: 1.71, K: 18, BB: 14



KEYS TO THE GAME

1 Bear down

Suffering a 1-12 record in its last 13 games, Brown comes in tied for the second-worst overall record of conference teams. Columbia rides a two-game winning streak, and the Lions should look to harness that positive momentum.

2 Start strong

Brown's starting pitching has struggled this season, with ERAs ranging from 4.85 to 8.44. Columbia should look to jump on the Bears early and build leads for its own starters to work with.

3 Rested Up

The Bears' game against Quinnipiac was cancelled due to rain last Tuesday. The extra rest means Brown should have its full arsenal of relieves available against the Lions.



Kevin Carlow
Brown
ERA: 5.48, K: 13, BB: 4

vs.

Geoff Whitaker
Columbia
ERA: 5.53, K: 20, BB: 8



Light Blue hoping to overpower Bears, Bulldogs this weekend

BASEBALL from back page

getting swept at Princeton last Sunday. Yale has now won 10 of its last 14 after coming back in the seventh and eighth innings on Wednesday to beat Sacred Heart by one and improving its record to 13-10 on the season.

If Yale uses the same pitching order as it did last weekend against Cornell and Princeton, Columbia should expect to see senior southpaw Brook Hart on the mound in game one on Saturday. After a mediocre year last season with a 3-3 record and 6.26 ERA, Hart has started strong this spring, allowing just seven earned runs over 32 innings for a team-leading 1.95 ERA. He also has a team-high three complete games in five starts, so he has the potential to provide trouble for a Columbia team that is only 1-4 since its spring break in games started by lefties.

The Lions have enjoyed strong pitching of their own this season—some of it coming from unlikely places. Junior Harrison Slutsky leads the team with a 1.40 ERA over 19.1 innings, mostly in relief—that's down from 9.11 a year ago. Also, his walk/hits per innings pitched (WHIP)—2.11 last year—is just .89 this spring, and opponents'

batting average is down .180 points to an impressive .179.

Right behind him is sophomore Stefan Olson. Sporting newly twined dreadlocks, Olson threw seven scoreless innings against Harvard last Sunday to lower his ERA to 1.71 over three starts and two relief outings. While Olson has had some control problems—he has 14 walks so far over 21 innings—he says he's been working with the coaches on getting the ball over the plate and trusting his defense to make plays, which it has certainly proved capable of doing. The team gave up just one error in the Harvard games, and Cox made a couple of great plays in center to save runs. Despite senior Pat Lowery's struggles this year, he had a solid outing in the first game against Dartmouth, striking out eight and holding the Big Green to three runs until the seventh inning, when reliever Tim Giel allowed Lowery's leftover runners to score on a home run.

After two disappointing losses to their inter-division foe at home last weekend, the Lions will look to pick up the slack on the road, where Columbia was 7-3 last year in league play. Both Friday and Saturday's doubleheaders are set to kick off at 12 p.m.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Light Blue women's tennis hits the road to go against Yale, Brown in this weekend's matchups

Coming off a heartbreaking loss to Cornell, the women's tennis team (9-9, 0-3 Ivy) will take on two of the Ivy's biggest contenders, No. 35 Yale and No. 43 Brown, on the road this weekend.

Yale beat the Light Blue 6-1 earlier this year in February. The only Columbia player to win was sophomore Nicole Bartnik at No. 1 singles, defeating Vicky Brook 7-1 in a third-set supertiebreak. Freshman Bianca Sanon fell in three sets at No. 2, but the rest of the matches were all won by the Bulldogs in straight sets, which included a sweep of the doubles' point.

Yale enters the match this weekend with a 1-1 record in Ivy play after a stunning 5-2 loss to No. 56 Princeton, a match that was played without Elis

senior captain Stevi Petrilli.

The Bears, on the other hand, enter the weekend 2-0 in Ivy play and on a three-match winning streak. Brown posted resounding 6-1 wins over No. 56 Princeton and Penn last weekend. The bottom of the Bears' lineup, No. 3 through No. 6 singles, has been dominant in Ivy play, with every player winning both of her singles matches in straight sets against Princeton and Penn.

Columbia will be looking to rebound from a tough 4-3 road loss to Cornell, which came down to No. 6 singles, where freshman Tiana Takenaga could not get the deciding win for the Lions.

Both matches are scheduled to start at noon.

—Kunal Gupta

Despite a rough start this spring, men's tennis is worth watching

GUPTA from back page

team has been historically dominant—it's the actual quality of tennis at the match. Almost everyone at this school has played some tennis when he or she was younger, and those who have played appreciate what a difficult sport it is to play. These guys will rip serves consistently above 100 mph, and while that may amaze you, consider the fact that they come back with almost as much speed. I've heard people tell me that professional tennis is boring. Well, a college tennis match—where you get to stand five feet away from the players—is anything but.

The doubles point, to me, is the epitome of exciting athletics. It highlights quick reflexes, big serves, bigger returns, deft volleys, and thumped overheads that inevitably leave the crowd oohing and aahing. Imagine standing at the net with nothing but a racket as an angry opponent swats shots over 80 mph right at your head. If that sounds terrifying to you, join the club, but these guys will calmly hit winners off of those. When it comes to the singles, the casual sports fan honestly won't see a difference between the play of the top guys and the players at the U.S. Open. That might seem extreme, but I dare you to watch them play and tell me I'm wrong. You get to watch these guys run sideline to sideline, hitting shots with absurd pace and spin for over two hours, all while sitting close enough to hear No. 1 singles player Haig Schneiderman mutter under his breath or to hear what advice Goswami tells him at changeovers.

That match you're watching doesn't suit your interests? There are six singles matches going on at the same time, so if you don't like to see one style of play, you can just watch a different court. You can watch senior Kevin Kung rip lefty forehand winners, see freshman Tizian Bucher play an old-school throwback game, or witness John Yetimoglu slap winners all over the court. However, college tennis is about much more than just tennis. It is sports at its purest—just two people of incredible yet equal skill level fighting it out to see who wants to win more. By and large, the players at Columbia, Yale, and Brown are equally skilled. If they played 10 times, they would probably split five and five. But this weekend, each individual

match and the overall matches will be determined by who fights, claws, scratches, and wills themselves to victory on that afternoon.

So Columbia is going to win easily right? How could it lose after everything I've just written about how good it is? Truth is, Yale, Brown and every other team Columbia will face this season will be extra amped up to have a chance to take down the two-time defending champs.

Spectators and fans can make a huge difference.

But that's where you come in. More than any other sport at Columbia, spectators and fans can make a huge difference in the outcome of the match. You sit close enough to the courts to get into the heads of the opponents' players, and you can feel the energy in the bubble when a "Let's go Lions!" chant starts up from one of the team's faithful alumni. In 2007, Columbia hosted Penn in a playoff to see who would represent the conference in the NCAA Tournament. Columbia won that match, and players and people who I talk to today still reference that as the best atmosphere they've been a part of at a Columbia sporting event.

Even in a down year, the men's tennis team deserves your attention and cheers this weekend. The players have practiced for countless hours, in front of no one, just preparing themselves for this stretch of conference play. And while the season may not have turned out quite the way they wanted, it's still a program that is defined by one thing: winning. How many teams at Columbia can say that?

The bottom line is that this weekend, you have a chance to be as big a part of the outcome of the two matches as the players themselves are.

I can't guarantee a win. But if you go to the match, you will be entertained and see the best that Columbia athletics has to offer. Isn't that incentive enough?

Kunal Gupta is a senior in the School of Engineering and Applied Science majoring in operations research. sports@columbiaspectator.com

THE SLATE



SOFTBALL
at Brown
Providence, R.I.
Friday, 12 p.m. & 2:30 p.m. (doubleheader)



SOFTBALL
at Yale
New Haven, Conn.
Saturday, 12:30 p.m. & 2:30 p.m. (doubleheader)



TRACK & FIELD
George Mason Invitational
Fairfax, Va.
April 8



MEN'S TENNIS
vs. Yale
Dick Savitt Tennis Center
Saturday, 2 p.m.



MEN'S TENNIS
vs. Brown
Dick Savitt Tennis Center
Sunday, 2 p.m.



WOMEN'S TENNIS
at Yale
New Haven, Conn.
Saturday, 12 p.m.



WOMEN'S TENNIS
at Brown
Providence, R.I.
Sunday, 12 p.m.



MEN'S GOLF
Princeton Invitational
Princeton, N.J.
April 9-10



MEN'S HEAVYWEIGHT ROWING
vs. Princeton, at Penn
Philadelphia, Penn.
Saturday, time TBA



MEN'S LIGHTWEIGHT ROWING
at Navy
Annapolis, Md.
Saturday, 6:30 a.m.



WOMEN'S ROWING
George Washington Invitational
Washington, D.C.
Saturday, 8 a.m.



ARCHERY
Nanook of the North
Manchester, Conn.
April 8-10

GAMEDAY

FRIDAY, APRIL 8 • PAGE 6



COLUMBIA (11-12, 2-2 Ivy) at BROWN (3-17, 1-3 Ivy)

SATURDAY, 12 P.M., PROVIDENCE, R.I.
SATURDAY, 2:30 P.M., PROVIDENCE, R.I.

RADIO: WKCR 89.9 FM, WWDJ 970 AM •
SPECTRUM.COLUMBIASPECTATOR.COM



COLUMBIA (11-12, 2-2 Ivy) at YALE (13-10, 2-2 Ivy)

SUNDAY, 12 P.M., NEW HAVEN, CONN.
SUNDAY, 3:30 P.M., NEW HAVEN, CONN.

RADIO: WKCR 89.9 FM, WWDJ 970 AM •
SPECTRUM.COLUMBIASPECTATOR.COM



Men's tennis deserves to have your attention

I'll admit, when I first wanted to write a column on this date, I had a different set of circumstances in mind. I figured that the men's tennis team, the two-time defending Ivy League champions, would be in the spot that it normally is at this point in the season, playing its best tennis and hanging out somewhere near the top of the Ancient Eight. Unfortunately for anyone who has ever followed an athletics team at any level, sports seasons never go the way one thinks it will. Tennis, more than any other, is a cruel sport. The Columbia men's tennis team currently sits in last place in the Ivy League with a record of 6-12 and is still looking for its first Ivy win. Nevertheless, even on its worst day, the tennis team is worthy of your attention.

This Saturday, the men's tennis team will host rival Yale in its biggest home match of the season so far. Yale was the only team to beat Columbia in conference play last year, handing Columbia a heartbreaking 4-3 defeat in New Haven. On Sunday, the Lions will host Brown, which beat Columbia 5-2 earlier this season in the Eastern Conference Athletic Championships. For the first time in years, the Lions will be looking for revenge in both Ivy League matches of a weekend.

Everyone at Columbia is busy, and I get that. I'm sure you have plans on Saturday and Sunday, but things like homework, reading, papers, and enjoying the nice weather shouldn't prevent you from being where you really should be this weekend: the Dick Savitt Tennis Center, to support Columbia's most consistently successful athletic team.

What's that? You don't believe me when I say the men's tennis team is consistently the best team at Columbia? Since 2000, the men's tennis team has won five Ivy League titles (including the last two), had a player named first team all-Ivy every year but one, placed singles and doubles players in the NCAA Championships (including one advancing to the quarterfinals), and won too many singles and doubles titles for me to count. But its success goes back longer than that. Head coach Bid Goswami has built this team from the ground up, and in his 28 years as head coach, the team has finished above .500 every year except one. Think about how many teams at Columbia finish with a winning record for one season. Then think about how many can do it for three straight seasons. Then think how many can make it nine out of 10 seasons. That's just one-third of what the men's tennis team has done.

But what makes a Columbia tennis match so much fun to watch isn't just the fact that the



KUNAL GUPTA

The Phanatic



HENRY WILLSON / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

GEE WHITAKERS | Senior pitcher Geoff Whitaker struggled against Dartmouth last weekend, but the Lions will need him to be on top of his game when they take on Brown in Providence, R.I.

Tennis hopes to get past slump against Brown, Yale

BY KUNAL GUPTA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The men's tennis team, the loser of eight straight matches, hopes that home court advantage will help it snap out of a record-long slide. The losing streak is the longest since 1994, and Columbia (6-12, 0-2 Ivy) is guaranteed to have its first losing season since 2001-2002. This year's squad will host its first Ivy matches of the spring this weekend, when it welcomes Brown and Yale at the Dick Savitt Tennis Center.

"I'm hoping it will change fortune for us a little bit," said head coach Bid Goswami. "We've been practicing hard and hoping that some good things happen and it falls our way. It's been one or two points in doubles that we lose."

Columbia is coming off Ivy losses to Harvard and Dartmouth this past weekend. The Light Blue lost 5-2 in both matches, but it had chances to win each contest. The team won the doubles point against Dartmouth but then lost four of the six singles matches in straight sets to stop any momentum the early 1-0 lead had created. Against Harvard, senior co-captain Kevin Kung had three match points at 6-2, 5-2, 0-4 to put the Lions on the board early and tie up the match, but he could not close the deal in the second set and lost 2-6, 7-5, 7-5 at No. 2 singles.

"I think [the doubles point is] really important," Goswami said. "Even against Harvard, if we win the doubles matches, it's a different match. We had so many chances, and it was early but we were up a break in two of the matches. But at the same time, against Dartmouth we won the doubles point and we played poorly that day [in singles]."

The first opponent of the

weekend will be Yale, which has struggled this season despite having two of the conference's best singles players in sophomores Marc Powers and John Huang. Huang has wrestled with injuries all year and has alternated between playing No. 2 and 3 singles with fellow sophomore Daniel Hoffman. Yale beat Columbia 4-3 in New Haven outdoors last season, giving the Lions their only Ivy loss of the year. The Bulldogs (9-8, 1-1 Ivy) are coming off a weekend split after beating No. 61 Penn but losing to No. 58 Princeton. Sophomore Marc Powers has played No. 1 singles all year for the Bulldogs after competing at No. 1 last season and being the first player in Ivy League history to be named both Ivy League Player of the Year and Ivy League Rookie of the Year in the same season. The Yale sophomore will go up against Columbia's junior Haig Schneiderman at No. 1 singles. The two have split their two matches this year.

When Columbia hosts Brown, it will be welcoming a team that beat it 5-2 earlier this spring at the Eastern Conference Athletic Championships. Brown had a tumultuous 2009-2010 season that saw it fall to the bottom of conference standings, lose its head coach Jay Harris, and go 10-16 overall and 0-7 in the Ivy League. However, under new head coach David Schwarz, the Bears have had a stunning rebound, going 13-4, with all four of their losses coming at the hands of nationally ranked teams. Despite its strong overall record, Brown is 0-2 in the conference play after losing two straight 4-3 heartbreakers to Penn and Princeton last weekend.

Columbia will host Yale on Saturday and Brown on Sunday, with both matches starting at 2 p.m. at the Dick Savitt Tennis Center.

Baseball to take first Ivy road trip of year

BY TREVOR COHEN
Spectator Staff Writer

One Ivy weekend is in the books, and the Columbia baseball team sits in the bottom half of the division it won by five games last year. There's nothing the team can do about undefeated Lou Gehrig Division rivals Penn and Princeton this weekend, though, as it takes on two teams from the Red Rolfe Division.

The Lions head on the road tomorrow and Sunday, first to Providence to take on Brown (3-17, 1-3 Ivy) and then to New Haven, where they will face a Yale team tied for first in its division with reigning Ivy champion Dartmouth at 2-2.

After finishing with the second-best record in the Ivy League two years ago at 15-5—one game shy of division-champion Dartmouth—the Bears struggled last year, finishing at .500 in the league and 13-31 overall, the second-worst of all Ivy teams. They've fared no better this year, managing only two wins coming into league play and taking just one-of-two from the also-struggling Cornell after getting swept by Princeton. Brown is hitting .217 as a team, compared to opponents' .344 average against. By comparison, Columbia has six individual players with averages over .270—two of whom, senior Nick Cox and sophomore

Dario Pizzano, eclipse the .400 mark—while Brown has only three, with its top hitter, junior first baseman Mike DiBiase, at an even .300.

Nevertheless, the Lions shouldn't treat their games with Brown as two gimmes. No. 1 starter senior Matthew Kimball—whom the Light Blue is likely to see in game one—stayed strong after surrendering three runs to Princeton in each of the first two innings last Saturday, giving up only one more over the next four frames and allowing his team to pull within three. Kimball has a proven ability to go late into games, averaging 6.5 innings per start over four outings this year.

Columbia has six players with averages over .270, while Brown has only three.

A strong Yale team will be Columbia's greatest challenge this weekend. The Bulldogs came into Ivy play with the most preseason wins of any Ancient Eight team and had won seven straight before

SEE BASEBALL, page 5



ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

IT TAKES TWO | Doubles play, especially at the No. 1 spot, will be key for the Lions this weekend.

WE MAJOR IN STORAGE.

STORAGE
STARTING AT
\$29

**FREE
MOVE**

**RESERVE
FOR SUMMER
NOW!**

**Manhattan®
Mini Storage.com
212-storage®**

Restrictions apply to each offer.

NEAR YOU!
110 W 107th St @ Columbus Ave.
570-571 Riverside Dr @ W 134th St

SEE GUPTA, page 5

For **THE SLATE**,
see page 5

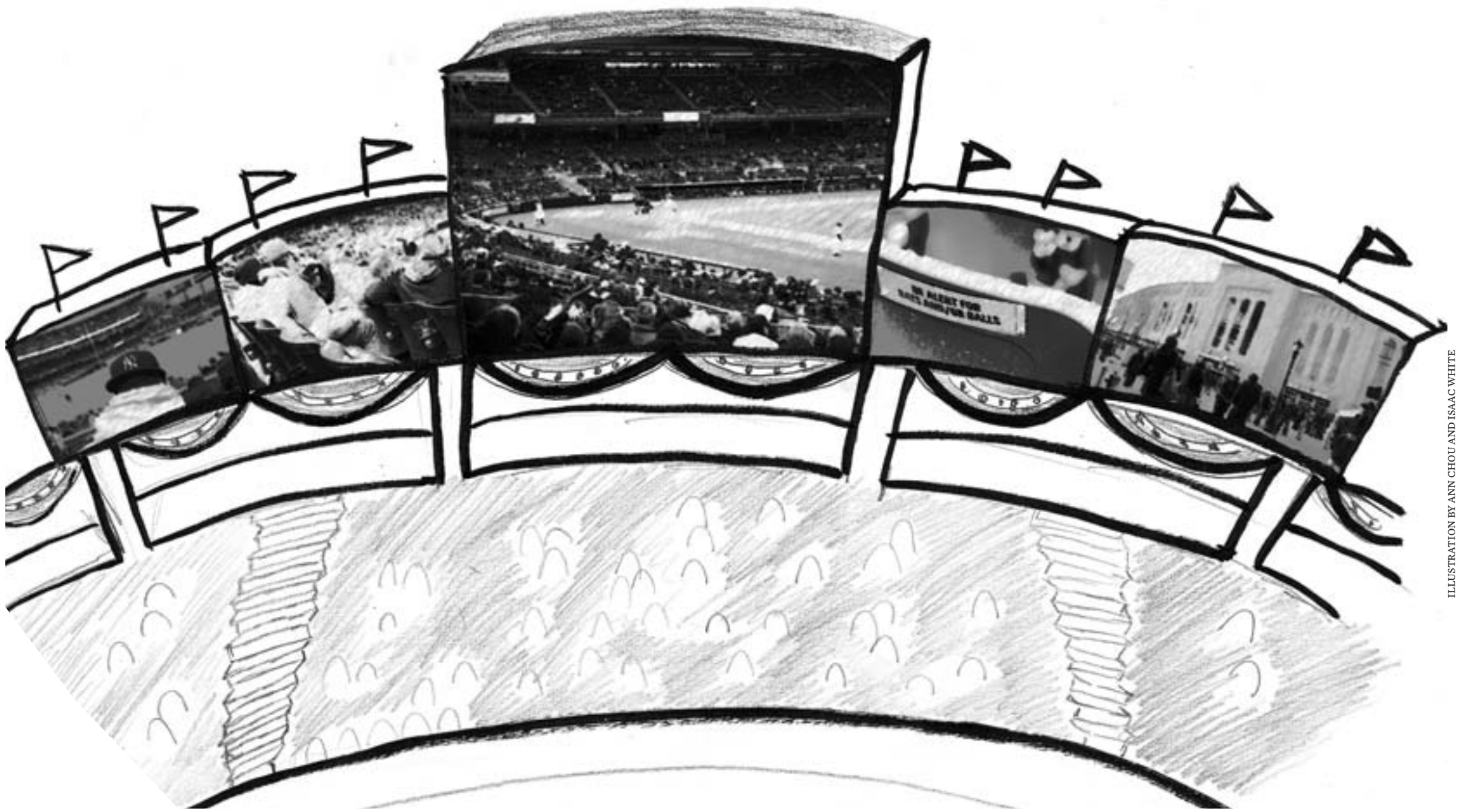


ILLUSTRATION BY ANN CHOU AND ISAAC WHITE

Yankee game throws sports-averse first-year a curveball

BY MELISSA HANEY
Spectator Staff Writer

Buy me the peanuts and Cracker Jacks, but don't take me out to the ball game. For 19 years, this was my mantra. For a girl far more interested in shopping for cute new LBDs than reading about RBIs, tickets to any sporting event provide little temptation, but baseball seems the least alluring of all.

Like most other things in life, I blame this on my older brother. After sitting through well over 100 interminable Little League games in both the scorching hot, midsummer sun and the freezing cold, late-autumn rain, my feelings concerning "America's Game" weren't exactly positive. My brother's habit of stealing the remote to replace my favorite episode of *Lizzie McGuire* with a nine-inning snooze-fest didn't help too much either.

I thought baseball was not, could not, and would never be enjoyable. I was wrong.

Walking through Gate 6 of the new Yankee

Stadium, I was greeted by unexpected pomp and circumstance. You don't have to know too much about baseball to know that the New York Yankees are filthy rich—and not too worried about showing it.

What I also found somewhat surprising were the crowds of die-hard fans who were—dare I say it—having fun. It was windy, barely above 30 degrees, and 8 p.m. on a Tuesday night. And we were at a baseball game. How in the world did these people have smiles on their faces?

Perhaps they had just indulged themselves in some fried dough. Exactly what it sounds like, fried dough is one of the many delicacies and idiosyncrasies of the Yankee Stadium that make going there something to grin about, even if you don't like the sport itself. Craving some sushi? How about a New York Strip? Maybe a fresh grilled panini? As I discovered walking among the navy-blue-and-white masses to my shockingly comfortable (and cheap) seat, all of the above are available.

But what about the game? We'll get to

that—remember, I'm new to this whole "I actually want to watch baseball" thing. First, there is shopping.

Whenever my dad would drag the entire Haney clan to go and see the Trenton Thunder—a local minor league team back home in Jersey—play, the one and only thing I had to look forward to was the gift shop. A ray of light in what seemed a black hole of boredom, the prospect of scoring a new hat, a bat-shaped pen, or a mascot keychain kept me from losing my mind.

Call me a pawn of the system, but team-themed merchandise always gets me excited. So, you can only imagine how I felt walking into the "Official Yankee Store," where one can buy anything from a bedazzled pink Teixeira jersey to a Yankee Connect Four set. Obviously, everything is insanely overpriced—\$60 dollars for a T-shirt? I think not—but ooh-ing and aah-ing at items like a fighting finger or a battery-powered, light up cap

SEE BASEBALL, page B3



MELISSA HANEY FOR SPECTATOR

Best of

Gelaterie

Any dessert epicure worth his or her salt knows that ice cream and gelato are not the same thing. For those who can’t get enough of the fresh, creamy, whipped texture of the Italian specialty, New York does not disappoint. The Big Apple holds its own, with both traditional favorites hailing straight from Italy and innovative American interpretations of this dolce of choice. —BY KAVITHA SURANA



Grom

Although just outside the Columbia neighborhood, Grom (2165 Broadway, between 76th and 77th streets) is as authentic a gelateria as one can get without travelling to Italy. A small cone with two flavors may cost an arm and a leg (\$5), but that’s because most of the ingredients are directly sourced from Italy or other distant locations. It’s well worth the price, as a traditional cone of chocolate, cream, and whipped cream will prove. Bacio, a hazelnut and gianduja delight, is also a superb Italian treat, as are the chocolate-chipped Stracciatella, the nougat-studded Torroncino, and the espresso-and-biscuit-laced Tiramisù.

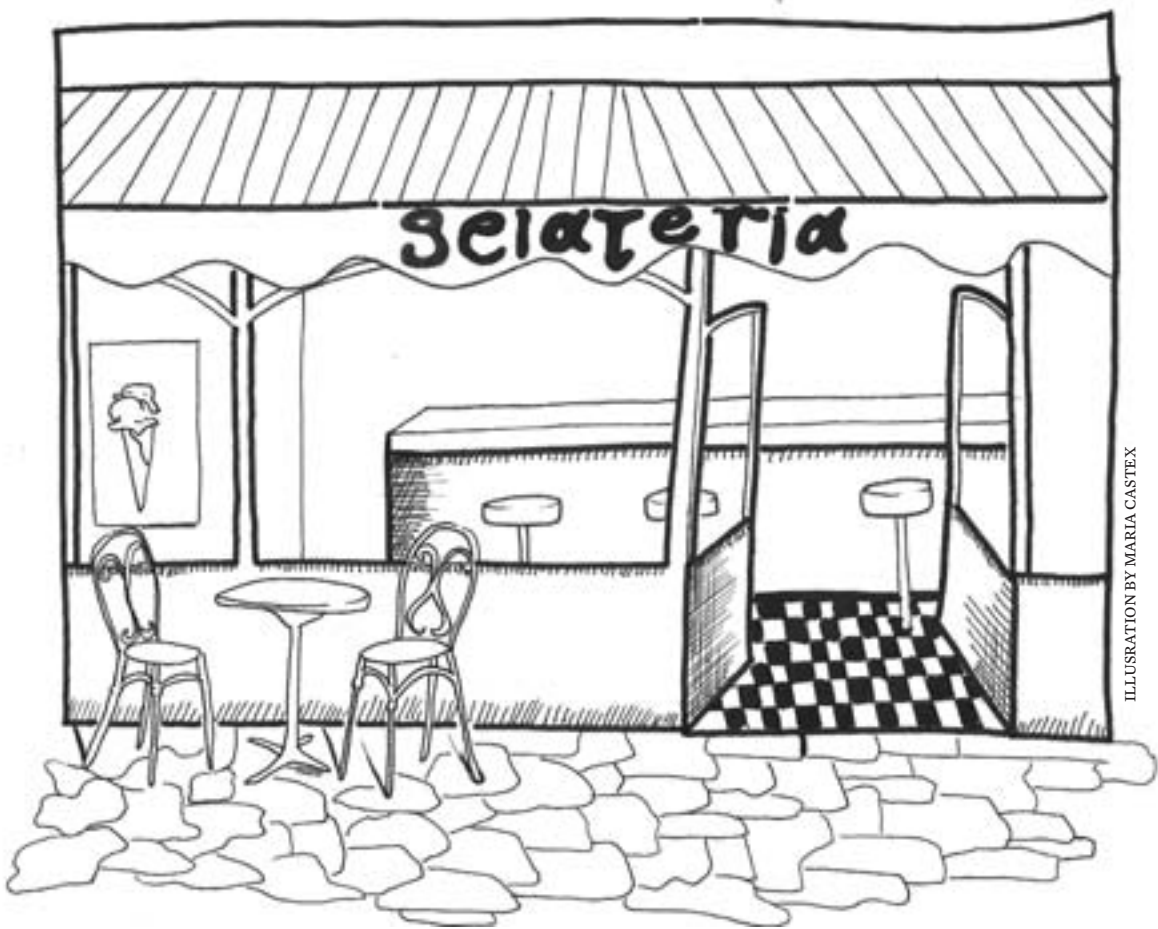


ILLUSTRATION BY MARIA CASTEX



ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE MANNHEIM

Eataly

The creamy consistency of the choices served up at Eataly’s gelato bar (200 Fifth Ave., at 23rd Street) are exactly what every gelato devotee craves. The flavors don’t put on airs or pull any fancy tricks. Instead, Eataly keeps things refreshingly simple. The sorbets (\$3.80 for a single) focus on summery fruit flavors like raspberry, strawberry, and lemon. The gelato list offers a sampling of traditional Italian flavors that pair well. Try Caffé Espresso and Hazelnut together, or the milky Fiordilatte with the decadent Pistachio—a popular favorite.

il laboratorio del gelato

Columbia Business School alum Jon Snyder has long been mixing up innovative flavors like Tarragon Pink Pepper and Guinness at il laboratorio del gelato (188 Ludlow St., between Stanton and Houston). This past November, Snyder upgraded from a shop front on the Lower East Side to a 2,750-square-foot location on Ludlow Street. Now that he is able to showcase more flavors at once, students might be overwhelmed by the burden of choosing a combination. Exotic Lavender and Olive Oil (\$3.25 for a small) are light and easy to mix with other flavors, while only the more intrepid student should go for Cheddar Cheese or Wasabi. Fresh apple, grapefruit, strawberry, and plum sorbets taste intoxicatingly close to the real thing.

Stellina

The new kid on the block, Stellina (95 Allen St., between Delancey and Broome streets) is already causing a stir with its creative spin on conventional gelato. Housed in a glitzy pink ice cream parlor, Stellina’s mixtures are eccentric. It’s as if Ben & Jerry went to Italy and returned with gelato-textured frozen concoctions loaded with crazy toppings (\$3.50 for a

single). Cinnamon Toast is blended with real toast batter, and Salty Caramel includes pretzel sticks. Coconut Stracciatella is a standout twist on the classic. The café will soon offer the long awaited bicerin—a layered drink native to Turin, Italy, made from espresso, dense hot chocolate, and milk.

Lynda Benglis bucks trends with exhibit and on Miller stage

BY IAN ERICKSON-KERY
Spectator Staff Writer

Artist Lynda Benglis has never been afraid to break the rules. She brought her small dog Pie along when she spoke last night, April 7, at Miller Theatre for the third and final installment of “Re-figuring the Spiritual,” a series co-sponsored by the School of the Arts and the Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life. Audience members laughed as Pie scurried about the stage, occasionally jumping up onto Benglis’ lap. More controversial was Benglis’ advertisement for Paula Cooper Gallery in a 1974 issue of Artforum, in which she posed naked while holding a long dildo up to her vagina. A firestorm ensued between art critics, attesting to Benglis’ claim that women needed to take bold steps to garner attention in the art world. Benglis’ broader practice can be seen as a repudiation of the ideas she encountered at art school. “There were so many rules when I was growing up in the art world, which I found absurd,” she said.

In her advertisement for Paula Cooper Gallery in a 1974 issue of Artforum, Benglis posed naked while holding a long dildo up to her vagina. A firestorm ensued.

The dominant style during the late 1960s and early 1970s was minimalism. A single walk-through of Benglis’ current retrospective, on view at the New Museum (235 Bowery, at Prince Street) until June 19, reveals that the artist’s work is far from minimal. Indeed, Jan Avgikos, an art critic who interviewed Benglis as a part of the Miller Theatre event, prefaced one question with “The idea of excess recurs in your work.” At the exhibition, viewers find deeply gestural abstract sculptures made from beeswax, polyurethane, gold-leaf, zinc, and aluminum. Phantom, a five-part sculpture in which bizarre shapes seemingly ooze from the wall, is made of polyurethane covered with phosphorescent pigments that glow bright green under the room’s backlights. Much of Benglis’ practice references abstract impressionism: One can picture the artist playfully pouring latex onto the ground for her floor paintings in a similar fashion to Jackson Pollock dropping paint onto grounded canvases for his drip paintings. The show also contains a number of photographs and videos that advance a radical vision of gender. One clip shows two women kissing, while



COURTESY OF ALEBA GARTNER

THROUGH THE AGES | A 1913 image of the Yale Glee Club attests to its history, which will be celebrated on April 8 with a 150th anniversary concert.

Yale students promise a ‘glee’-ful experience at Carnegie Hall concert

BY ANNELIESE COOPER
Columbia Daily Spectator

Though once merely evocative of mirth, today the word “glee” seems almost inextricably linked to music—in particular to teen crooning, thanks to the eponymous TV show and its weekly dose of pop tunes. Glee clubs weren’t always belting Journey, though: Their inception dates back centuries—or, in the case of the Yale Glee Club, exactly 150 years. The group will celebrate its milestone with a special performance this Friday, April 8, at Carnegie Hall (881 Seventh Ave., at 57th Street). Originating in England in the 1700s, the term “glee club” initially denoted a men’s society that performed short, lighthearted songs called “glees.” By the mid-19th century, the tradition made its way to American universities—first Harvard, then Michigan, then Yale—and continued to develop from there, through various iterations and styles, into its current co-ed choir format. Though the Yale Glee Club is certainly proud of its history, this upcoming performance is not retrospective. “The focus of the Carnegie concert, actually, is new music,” Jeffrey Douma, director of the club since 2003, said. “I thought it would be interesting if this concert looked more towards the future, and also recognized the glee club’s historic role as a catalyst for new choral music.”

Just as Marshall Bartholomew innovated the choral arrangement of folk tunes as the club’s director from 1921 to 1953, Douma hopes to showcase the Club’s originality with the premiere of “Partition,” a contemporary piece he commissioned from Yale School of Music alum Ted Hearne. “I asked him to compose something that wasn’t necessarily about the Glee Club specifically, but that recognized the power of music to draw people together,” Douma said. “But I really left it up to him to decide what that might look like.” Hearne chose to focus on a conversation between Edward Said and conductor Daniel Barenboim, specifically with regards to Said’s assertion that “when you divide something up, it’s not so easy to put it all back together.” The quotation can apply to a broad scope, from the British Empire to musical composition. Hearne recognized a resonance with Yale’s socioeconomically stratified home of New Haven, a town in which, as Hearne said, “different classes are very sharply divided—there are partitions.” Though the inspiration is political, Hearne intends his piece to be more journalistic than message driven. For example, two of its movements consist entirely of the names of businesses that line the walk through New Haven toward the Yale campus. Listed in order, these locations are meant to invite listeners—and, specifically, the club members

themselves—to recognize New Haven’s geographic segregation in a way that is easy to overlook. “This is your city. Take responsibility for it or don’t, but notice it,” Hearne said. “I think the choir gets that, which is extremely gratifying.” Douma interpreted a further significance, noting that these movements make manifest the “artificial boundaries and barriers between people, even though we live right next door to each other.” Still, beyond this theme of separation, Hearne hoped to create a celebration of the unifying power of song. “Making music together, and even more specifically making vocal music together, connects people in an immediate and direct way, because our voices are very personal,” Douma said, noting that he has attended multiple weddings of former Glee Club compatriots. Hearne agreed: “I grew up in choirs, and I found that to be a very community-driven experience.” As such, he said, “there are no solos in my piece—it’s very much about the interaction.” One movement finds the choir split in two, forming the word “easy” with section each saying half—the one literally unable to complete its message without the other. Though perhaps without the TV show’s celebrity pop, this Glee performance seeks to provide contemporary relevance while also showcasing the Yale Glee Club’s rich history of connection and innovation.



COURTESY OF DISCOVERY TIMES SQUARE

MUGGLE MAGIC | Discovery Times Square’s traveling exhibit “Harry Potter: The Exhibition,” on display now through Sept. 5, consists of an hour-long multimedia show that begins with an invitation to Hogwarts and reveals some of the tricks behind the Harry Potter movie series.

Hogwarts diploma is just a subway ride to Times Square away

BY MARICELA GONZALEZ
Spectator Staff Writer

Discovery Times Square is pleased to inform New York residents and visitors that they have been accepted to the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Well, it may not be the real magical school, but it is as close Potter-inclined Columbia students can get to the real thing.

Discovery Times Square, an exhibition space specializing in touring expositions, presents “Harry Potter: The Exhibition,” which runs from Tuesday, April 5, until Monday, Sept. 5. With hundreds of props, costumes, and replicas from the eight “Harry Potter” films, the hour-long multimedia exhibit showcases the tangible elements that bring movie magic to life.

Produced by Global Experience Specialists in association with Warner Bros. Consumer Products, this is the exhibition’s final North American stop—it premiered in Chicago and went onto Boston, Toronto, and Seattle—before heading to a currently undisclosed location overseas.

Eddie Newquist, chief creative officer at GES, discussed what he hopes attendees will experience at the exhibition.

“The concept was to share the artistry and craftsmanship that has gone into making the films with the public. But we didn’t just want to put things in display cases, we also wanted the

fans to feel like they go to Hogwarts: When they arrive, move through the classes, visit Hagrid’s Hut, and go outside,” Newquist said.

“If I had to choose, my favorite would be Hagrid’s Hut. It’s a walk-through exhibit recreation within its own environment. It contains everything related to Hagrid like his giant chair and the pink umbrella he uses to give Dudley a pig tail.”

—Jesse Phillips, GES

The exhibit begins with a pre-show inviting all to a stay at Hogwarts. A lucky few hop on stage to be officially sorted into one of the four houses via the Sorting Hat. Then, a short film highlights iconic scenes from all eight films until the exhibition officially begins with a cloud of smoke emanating

from a replica of the Hogwarts Express.

Newquist explained the process of creating the showcase on such a grand scale. “So we started working with [‘Harry Potter’ producers] David Heyman and Stuart Craig, and began really identifying things that we might want to highlight,” Newquist said. “It was quite a long process; it took a number of years to do that.”

Jesse Phillips, senior marketing manager at GES, shared his favorite aspect of the exhibition, which involves his favorite character of the novels, Rubeus Hagrid.

“If I had to choose, my favorite would be Hagrid’s Hut,” Phillips said. “It’s a walk-through exhibit recreation within its own environment. It contains everything related to Hagrid like his giant chair, the pink umbrella he uses to give Dudley a pig tail, and his costume.”

Newquist highlighted how much work goes into every piece, describing as an example the process used to make Buckbeak the hippogriff, on display by Hagrid’s Hut.

“Nick Dudmen is the creature designer who did Buckbeak, and every one of his feathers were put in by hand. There’s tens of thousands of them,” Newquist said. “He’s one of my favorites, just because you can see the great detail in him.”

Those Columbia students who have grown up with and come to love The Boy Who Lived can experience, if for a brief moment, what is beyond Platform 9¾ in Times Square.

In last installment of ‘Re-figuring the Spiritual,’ Benglis sticks to tangible anecdotes

BENGLIS from page B2

another presents a humorous narrative about a hermaphroditic cow.

A feminist strand runs through all of Beglis’ work. Avgikos discussed how much of what the artist does challenges male-centric modes of representation, while also remaining expressive and sensual. “These were things that eventually became at odds in feminist discourse,” Avgikos said, suggesting the uniqueness of Benglis’ creations.

Despite the title of the Miller Theatre event,

Benglis directed little focus toward “the spiritual” in her discussion. Rather, she focused on her inspiration, her use of materials, the evolution of her ideas over time, her travels, and her personal stories. This made the tenor of the evening much different from the Richard Tuttle event of the same series last fall, in which the artist drew regularly from dense philosophical texts. Benglis’ discussion was much more accessible for all and in the end, probably more useful. Benglis was irreverent on stage as in her work, and it made for an enjoyable and thought-provoking evening.



IAN ERICKSON-KERY FOR SPECTATOR

PROVOCATEUR | Artist Benglis appeared at Miller on April 7 for an event in “Re-figuring the Spritual.”

Blowing smoke over the city with friends is all a Friday needs

I don’t know about you, but sometimes, I just couldn’t be bothered.

On a Friday night, the idea of making plans, dressing up, getting out, is all too much. On the weekend, I want to rest. I don’t even care about people any more. You want to spend time with friends, but sometimes you just don’t have the energy, right?

Columbia oppresses you with work, squeezes out the social life until you’re just an avatar of efficiency, a clockwork accomplishment. Even when you relax, the specter of expectation hangs low. Maybe you should be thinking about those papers due next week.

Late last Friday, I was just about to go to bed, but there was something in the back of my mind, a little whisper that maybe I should go and do something. All experience is good experience, isn’t it?

In a moment, the decision was made. Adventure seized my hips. It softly kissed my neck, moved its body a little closer to mine, and I could smell its sweet seductive pheromones wafting into my imagination. The night was drawing me in. It was late, but I had to get out.

Warm and soft from a steamy shower, I pulled on some clothes. The coffee machine quivered for a moment and the espresso burnt my tongue as I swallowed it. Panting a little, I found my friends in a little Furnald single. We listened to John Lennon as they finished getting ready.

There were a bunch of us, and the plan was uncertain. We imagined ending up in Brooklyn, but it wasn’t late enough yet. We weren’t really in the right frame of mind, either—“It’s so far,” Libby complained.

So, we piled into cabs and headed for Le Bain (at Washington and 13th streets). I didn’t really know why, but it didn’t really matter.

Apparently we knew somebody called Francesca, so the doorman let us pass. A stamp, a dark corridor, a top-floor swirling elevator ride and there we were, looking through glass windows, in a pounding fish-bowl far detached from barren avenues and half-deserted streets.

In a moment, the decision was made. Adventure seized my hips. It softly kissed my neck, moved its body a little closer to mine, and I could smell its sweet seductive pheromones wafting into my imagination. The night was drawing me in. It was late, but I had to get out.

The glass walls and leather décor, flashing lights, and empty music make it a strange place. I resented, briefly, the overpaid douche behind the decks, wobbling through unmatched transitions and cutting the sound to hear us sing. A few people shuffled around on the carpet. An empty pole stood in the middle of the room.

But there were enough of us there that it didn’t really matter where we were. It was a dark and exciting world to explore, and the hours passed as we danced and drank. We were kids in a playpen. We each ran around doing our own thing, but we knew that we were there together.

It was starting to get late. The group had dispersed and I found myself alone. The place was less inviting like that.

A text message told me to go to the roof, and I bumped into Alice on the way. She was looking for people, too, and we fronted up to the doorman.

“Upstairs is closed,” he said simply.

“Our friends are up there, we were just going to see them,” I volunteered.

“We’re clearing it out in a couple of minutes,” he replied. “You can’t go up.” My heart sank. That was it, I thought, home time. Nothing to be done. The bouncer said we couldn’t go up.

“But we just need to go and get them,” Alice piped up from behind. “Just for five minutes. We’re leaving.” I was a little abashed but felt a surge of affection for her as we climbed the stairs.

The view from the roof was spectacular. The night was warm and clear, sticky and quiet above the mess below. But it was just an empty rooftop, where were they all? Around a corner, then another, then up a wobbly flight of stairs, and I started to wonder.

But we turned one last time, and there everyone was, sitting down in dreamy contentedness against the wall, blowing smoke out over the foggy streets. The sight made me swell, and I was glad not to be asleep.

Kemble Walker is a Columbia College first-year. Restless Nights runs alternate Fridays.



KEMBLE WALKER
Restless Nights

Haters can hate, but baseball deserves a second chance

BASEBALL from page B1

never ceases to entertain me.

I’ve talked about Yankee Stadium’s food and gift shop, and I could go on to mention the museum, the monument park, and the Hard Rock Café. But once I finally sat in my navy blue chair, something amazing happened. I didn’t want to leave. I went to the game expecting to visit all the things that make this park unique, that make going to a sporting event here bearable—even enjoyable—for those who just don’t like sports. Believe it or not, though, the game enthralled me.

Perhaps it was the company. Sitting to my right was my Italian roommate from Istanbul and to my left, a Staten Island mechanic who has lived in New York his entire life. Both provided some colorful commentaries, including “Who is Derek Jet-er?” (Italian Turk). I don’t think what the Staten Islander said, or rather, profanely shouted, would be fit for print, but let me assure you, it made watching the game undeniably entertaining—nothing beats some authentic New York City heckling.

Maybe, just maybe, it was the game itself that charmed me. Outside the nonstop routine of papers, exams, room selection, course registration, and whatever else I probably forgot to do, the slow pace and languid fluidity of each inning accorded a relaxing escape. I could sit down, take it in, and enjoy.

Critics say baseball is boring, claiming that those guys out there on the diamond aren’t real athletes, and I don’t entirely disagree. I guess the presumed antithesis would be soccer—where men, machines really, run back and forth, up and down the grassy field until the continuous, 90-minute marathon ends. While great differences between Lionel Messi and C.C. Sabathia undoubtedly exist, both men—and the sports they expertly play—provide entertainment for fans looking for an escape, solace for those hoping to get away from the craziness of their everyday lives.

Say what you will about the New York Yankees, but they turned this girl into a believer. I don’t care if you think I’m jumping on the bandwagon. I don’t care if you think the new Yankee Stadium is nothing but a manifestation of all that is evil. I don’t care if you think Alex Rodriguez is the Antichrist. After just one game, the Bronx Bombers, they’re my team.

So to all you baseball haters out there I have this to say—give the game one more try because it might surprise you. And if not, at least you can get a decent hot dog.

1

Flipside
Guide

‘Bijelo Dugme’

‘Dugmemania’ strikes Yugoslavian film and rock music enthusiasts

BY CHRISTIN ZURBACH
Columbia Daily Spectator

Bijelo Dugme, translated as White Button, was the Beatles of Yugoslavia, both changing and defining the country’s music scene and inciting what many called “Dugmemania.” Harnessing the band’s national scale and impact, director Igor Stoimenov created the eponymous documentary “Bijelo Dugme.” The film metaphorically explores Yugoslavia’s political evolution as mirrored through the evolution of the band.

On Thursday, April 7, Columbia’s Harriman Institute, which supports Russian, Eurasian, and Eastern European studies, screened “Bijelo Dugme” and facilitated a Q&A session with its director.

The film served as an appropriate opportunity to promote the Institute’s upcoming Bosnian-Herzegovinian Film Festival, at which the film will appear again in mid-May. Boding well for the festival, the turnout for the screening was strong, with a joyfully talkative audience that retained a communal energy throughout the film and questions. The high concentration of Balkan natives and experts at a Yugoslavian film prompted much laughter and banter at points that, to an outsider, were sometimes incomprehensible, especially with the film’s shoddily written subtitles. Even so, the hum of interaction that permeated the air made the experience more palpably exciting than watching many other documentaries.

“Bijelo Dugme” opens with clips of classic rock sung in Serbo-Croatian, immediately establishing a dichotomy between East and West to be further explored throughout the film.

The documentary went on to chronicle the band’s history through interviews and archival footage, all clearly framed by music. With its exploration of fan adoration, the band’s exponential rise to universal popularity, and their scandalous interactions with drugs and women, it felt comparable to a documentary of the Beatles or The Rolling Stones.

The artists and commentators discussed the social impact of uniting the rural with the urban, of giving a voice to youth, and of propagating something that was known and enjoyed by the majority of a national population. Yet the film still focused on the band—how it progressed and was perceived.

Goran Bregovic, the band’s leader, pinpoints his “happy musical times” as beginning when he “started playing in a strip club.” Describing one of the band’s critical recording sessions, he was candid and comical about the band’s struggles and solutions with finishing an album on time. Bijelo Dugme, having frittered away time through the excesses that often come with newfound success, had only 10 days to write and record 10 songs. “So they put me on cocaine to do it,” Bregovic said.

After the film, director Igor Stoimenov explained his vision of the film as a portrait of the evolution and demise of Yugoslavia rather than a music documentary. “I am not actually a big fan of Bijelo Dugme,” Stoimenov said, emphasizing the political aspects. Although that aspect is apparent in the footage—especially toward the end when censorship issues arise and politicized chants are started at concerts—the film cannot escape its title. The band is the soul of the film. Its influence and embodiment of a greater youthful Yugoslav spirit clearly dominate. The film eludes its director’s firmly set intentions by becoming its own entity that encapsulates an era through the story of one of its symbols.



COURTESY OF JÖRG P. ANDERS

LOOKING OUT | Caspar David Friedrich’s 1822 painting “Woman at the Window” is on view at the Met’s newest exhibit.



COURTESY OF FOCUS FEATURES

SPY GIRL | The film “Hanna,” directed by Joe Wright, opens in theaters on April 8, starring Saoirse Ronan as a top secret agent who is kidnapped and tries to escape from prison. The movie also stars Eric Bana as Hanna’s father and Cate Blanchett as his rival.

‘Hanna’

Saoirse Ronan’s latest elevates the usual action flick with youthful quirk

BY JOSEPH POMP
Spectator Staff Writer

Charlie’s Angels. Lara Croft. Hit-Girl. American action cinema has had its fair share of young heroines kicking ass, but few have been so savvy, or at least as polyglot, as the titular 16-year-old of “Hanna.” The film opens in theaters today, April 8.

A pure popcorn flick, despite certain obviously eccentric elements, “Hanna” is an interesting choice of reunion for director Joe Wright and star Saoirse Ronan after their collaboration on the drama “Atonement” (2007).

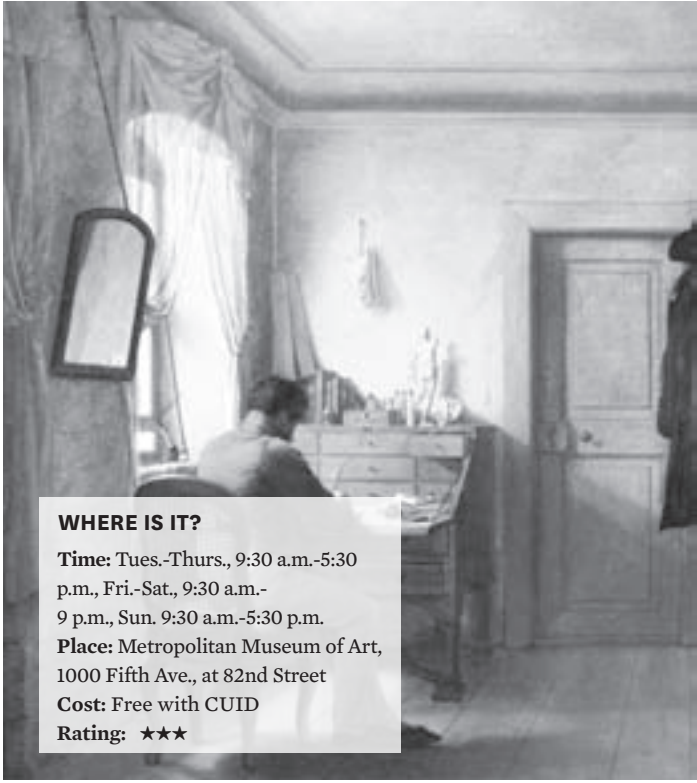
Hanna (Ronan) lives in top-secret hibernation in the wintry woods of Finland with her German father Erik (Eric Bana), a spy in exile. He teaches her everything she needs to know to become a top secret agent—from killing to speaking half a dozen languages to mastering European history, with the Brothers Grimm thrown in for good measure.

Things go awry when Hanna is kidnapped by Erik’s nemesis, Marissa Wiegler (Cate Blanchett), and taken to a high-security prison in God knows where. Escape from prison is the least of her challenges: The film follows Hanna as she hitchhikes her way

from Morocco to Berlin with a bohemian British family (bolstered by great performances from Olivia Williams as the mother and newcomer Jessica Barden as the teen daughter). And all the while Marissa remains on their tail.

Despite its strikingly young protagonist, “Hanna” would be a relatively by-the-book action picture if it didn’t boast a number of other quirks, particularly an original score by legendary electronic group The Chemical Brothers. The catchy, pulsating music makes action scenes that would otherwise bore jaded moviegoers feel fresh and cutting edge, perhaps more so than anything since “The Matrix.” The film’s uniqueness is also due to the production design, which reinforces the film’s Gothic, fairy-tale-like tone.

The transnationalism in “Hanna” and its interesting, if very brief, meditations on surveillance and parent-child relationships give the film greater depth than the average Bond movie. To be sure, it settles on privileging action over any sort of thematic development. Still, Ronan again demonstrates wisdom beyond her years in crafting a very complex character, and her supporting cast gives life to “Hanna” that makes it a cut above standard multiplex fare.



WHERE IS IT?
Time: Tues.-Thurs., 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Fri.-Sat., 9:30 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun. 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Place: Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1000 Fifth Ave., at 82nd Street
Cost: Free with CUID
Rating: ★★★



COURTESY OF BERND KUHNERT / RÉUNION DES MUSÉES NATIONAUX

WIDE OPEN | Adolph Menzel’s “The Artist’s Bedroom in Ritterstrasse” (1847), at left, and Constant Moyaux’s “View of Rome from the Artist’s Room at the Villa Medici” (1863), at right, are both featured in the Met’s “Rooms with a View” exhibit.

‘Rooms With a View’

Met exhibition opens window into northern European romantic artworks

BY ALEXIS NELSON
Columbia Daily Spectator

The words “Everything at a distance turns into poetry” usher visitors into an art exhibition that certainly remains true to its name.

“Rooms with a View: The Open Window in the Nineteenth Century” is now on display at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (1000 Fifth Ave., at 82nd Street). The exhibit, which centers on the Romantic motif of the window in painting and drawing, opened Tuesday, April 5, and will run through July 4.

The show features about 40 artists and includes 31 oil paintings and 26 works on paper.

German, Danish, French, and Russian artists first embraced the open window motif around 1810-1820. There is clear pattern of organization through the exhibit’s rooms, which makes it engaging and keeps visitors from feeling too overloaded.

There are works displaying sole figures, a collection of window drawings and sketches, and paintings of studios with artists at work. One room includes paintings that emphasize only the window itself and the view outside.

This northern European window trend occurred concurrently with the Napoleonic Wars and their immediate aftermath. On the losing end of these conflicts, Germans and Danes

saw their quotidian life become quite bleak. The exhibit explains that this may have inspired the many pictures of bare rooms showing frugal lifestyles.

However, there is also a clear celebration of modest family life and social gatherings in many of the works. Paintings by Danish artists Wilhelm Bendz and Emil Baerentzen depict cozy daily gatherings.

The usual explanatory plaques in the exhibit are augmented by long paragraphs describing how history begot this trend. These words are crucial to a full appreciation of the show.

The impressive use of light in these open window paintings is acutely evident in Georg Kersting’s work. His works emphasize either natural light flowing from the window or chiaroscuro created by lamplight and shadow.

Caspar David Fredrich was Germany’s most eminent Romantic painter. Many of his paintings exemplify the habit of including meditative figures in the foreground of the landscape. A wall description of Fredrich’s figures observes that, “seen from the back, they were representations of romantic yearning.”

The “Rooms with a View” exhibition is an absorbing voyage into an important movement in art.

A complete trip through all the rooms is demanding and may become tedious, as the exhibit is comprehensive. But the payoff is well worth the effort.

events

STYLE

The Great Coney Island Spectacularium

—1208 Surf Ave., at 12th Street, opens Friday, April 8, various times, \$0.99

Viewers can delve into Coney Island’s colorful past through this new display of eclectic objects, from taxidermy to bug carcass paintings, at the park’s museum.

FOOD

2011 Gourmet Food Truck Bazaar

—At 39th Street and Ninth Avenue, Sunday, April 10, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., free

Rather than spend all day searching for that perfect ‘60s-era shirt, Hell’s Kitchen Flea Market shoppers can sample their way through a collection of gourmet food trucks. The Kimchi Taco Truck, Rickshaw Dumpling Truck, Cinnamon Snail, Kelvin Natural Slush Truck, and more will be present.

STYLE

‘The New Black’

—2 Columbus Circle, at Broadway, opens Thursday, April 7, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., \$6

Do media outlets such as Vogue Black and BET brand the African American identity? The Museum of Arts and Design brings together media figures, journalists, and artists—from Bethann Hardison, Vogue Italia editor at large, to Oroma Elewa, founder and editor in chief of Pop/Africana—to discuss this issue.

FILM

Noir Now

—55 W. 13th St., between Fifth and Sixth avenues, Thursday, April 7, 6:30 p.m.-11 p.m., free with reservation

At The New School’s annual Noir Festival, critic Greil Marcus, director Todd Haynes, and writer Jon Raymond will discuss their recently launched HBO miniseries entitled “Mildred Pierce.”